

LyleMcCandless@aol.com

10/26/2011 08:57 AM

To aaron@woodsnwater.net, captfrankadams@aol.com, info@ussportsmen.org, modance@silverarrow.net, gmwilson8@embarqmail.com, i.armengol@worldnet.att.net, buckcrest@aol.com, cbarley9203@embarqmail.com, rodney@thebarretogroup.com, bbarry@shutts.com, donrbarton@yahoo.com, capital.ideas@att.net, bcsalliance@aol.com, joseph.bozzo@myfwc.com, ashton3branch@yahoo.com, mike_brennan@rubio.senate.gov, scrackergal@aol.com, captbrock@yahoo.com, chokobryan@yahoo.com, jim.casselman@lmco.com, dcharland@trcintl.com, wclark88@aol.com, edward_clark@nps.gov, kyck20@aol.com, jimcoletta@colliergov.net, chuck.collins@myfwc.com, commissioners@myfwc.com, newtoncook@bellsouth.net, erniesheryl_cooper@yahoo.com, patsydcooper@yahoo.com, jkent@racfl.com, cory.morea@myfwc.com, mike@swampbuggiesfl.com, don.coyner@myfwc.com, wdavell@mmdpa.com, davisw@windstream.net, bob_degross@nps.gov, sdeline@comcast.net, Gladesman@gmail.com, dmccarty16@aol.com, damon_doumlele@nps.gov, dudley4pack@aol.com, huntmstr@tampabay.rr.com, diane.eggeman@myfwc.com, mikeelf96@aol.com, elsid65@hotmail.com, lovingairboats@gmail.com, DFleshler@sun-sentinel.com, mikeford@fbclp.com, Jamesfrench@colliergov.net, manleyfuller@comcast.net, amgagliardi@naplesnews.com, jgarc137@fiu.edu, jfg29@windstream.net, rgarv001@fiu.edu, Jim.Gildea@moffit.org, karl_greer@fpl.com, jpg2esq@gmail.com, bushwagon@aol.com, cypresshunter99@yahoo.com, GaryHarrison@colliergov.net, kyleharween@yahoo.com, cathenson@comcast.net, hitchco@bellsouth.net, howardr85@aol.com, matt.hudson@myfloridahouse.gov, jadon.hull@aimengr.com, jkh1212@gmail.com, wayjen2500@gmail.com, junejeromerealty@frontier.com, mikeji219@gmail.com, abcs4578@hotmail.com, cfkearse11@tampabay.rr.com, Looprd@aol.com, ktuck15@hotmail.com, lchamberlain@cfl.rr.com, j_d_lee@nps.gov, legom2@yahoo.com, kloggins00@gmail.com, bokeelia@ymail.com, jlytle@naplesnews.com, lmacdonald@defenders.org, bdmaharrey@yahoo.com, marcoe@prodigy.net, markley.steve@yahoo.com, dmmarlin@verizon.net, wecmnwtf@yahoo.com, BMason@fmc-slc.com, matths1@collierschools.com, larrymccandless@windstream.net, cindy828@verizon.net, JMccand402@aol.com, lylemccandless@aol.com, jnmccandless@comcast.net, 10point2010@gmail.com, cmogelvang@earthlink.net, LJMoller@aol.com, cmorehead@moodyjones.com, smorrison1172@embarqmail.com, james.mullen@myfloridahouse.gov, murphystruck@bellsouth.net, barjnpwll@aol.com, lpjbranch@gmail.com, puch@bellsouth.net, Pedro_Ramos@NPS.Gov, mulletrapper@gmail.com, dustyrlv@yahoo.com, robert4570@aol.com, pross@ufl.edu, craigrucker@gmail.com, RVT4FST@aol.com, rvt4fst@aol.com,

wesley.seitz@myfwc.com, crazydaveiii@yahoo.com,
rick.scott@eog.myflorida.com, racedone@aol.com,
sloughfootcreek@aol.com, smyking@cs.com,
paul_souza@fws.gov, robertaamende@gmail.com,
saveourhardwoods@hotmail.com,
paulasprings@colliergov.net, estaats@naplesnews.com,
pereger1@gmail.com, stephengthompson@aol.com,
gestephens@twlakes.net, JohnS@ocillarealty.com,
lane@scggov.com, renee.stoll@winktv.com,
RVT4FST@centurylink.net, brigittetaylor@yahoo.com,
mtaylor@barneswalker.com, jmichaeltaylor@gmail.com,
tina@bergeroninc.com, t7top@aol.com,
kasont@embarqmail.com, lswjth2@yahoo.com,
Bob.Wattendorf@MyFWC.com,
Jeff@FloridaSportsman.Com,
debbiewight@colliergov.net, wildfed@gmail.com,
nick.wiley@myfwc.com, junebd29@aol.com,
bishopwright@bellsouth.net

cc

Subject Press Release

October 26 2011

PRESS RELEASE

From _____ Lyle McCandless
President
Big Cypress Sportsmen's Alliance
To _____ All who love, use and respect the
Big Cypress National Preserve.

HUNTERS FIGHT FOR ORV ACCESS TO BIG CYPRESS ADDITION LANDS

All:

The National Parks Conservation Association recently file a law suit against the National Park service. The law suite is two fold. Count One claims that restricting ORV's [Hunting Buggies] from 80% of the 147,000 acre Addition Lands is not enough. Count Two claims that the ORV Advisory Committee is unbalanced, that there are too many pro ORV people and not enough anti ORV people on the committee. The local leader of the National Parks Conservation Association and listed as co-plaintiff in the law suite is Mr. John Adornato. Mr. Adornato was recently re-appointed to the ORV Advisory Committee after being recently disallowed due to his questionable involvement in a national lobbying group. Great questions remain regarding this re-appointment.

A person being temporarily inactive in a group that would otherwise disqualify them from a committee appointment doesn't cut it.

In response to Count One:

The Big Cypress National Preserve was established in 1974 by an act of Congress. The purpose of the Preserve creation was three fold [1] To protect the watershed into the Everglades National Park [2] To keep the land out of the hands of the developers [3] To allow the continuation of the Traditional Cultural Activities including Hunting, Fishing, Frogging, Camping and ORV [Hunting Buggy] access. The Park Service and the anti ORV community quickly figured out that since they couldn't do anything to stop hunting the next best thing was to restrict ORV access. The vast majority of the Preserve is only accessible by ORV's. Stop the ORV's - Stop the Hunters, hence their objective of banning ORV's from 80% of the 147,00 acre Addition Lands. At this point the public has been illegally denied access to the Addition Lands from the 1988 purchase date to today [23+years]. Being denied ORV access to 80% of the Addition after the public waiting patiently for 23+ years is beyond unreasonable.

To date there is no documented evidence that ORV's have any long term negative impact on the environment. An ORV study conducted by the Big Cypress Sportsmen's Alliance during the 2008 hunting season established that there was an average of One ORV per Five Thousand acres of the Preserve during that three month [October thru December] hunting period. This three month period represents about 90% of the overall annual ORV activity in the Preserve, all facts, no fiction.

In response to Count Two:

I am not a member of the ORV Advisory Committee but I attend all meetings. I consider the Committee reasonably well balanced, I use the word reasonably for this reason. The minimum requirement for anyone being considered for the ORV Committee should be [1] That individual to have substantial knowledge of Traditional ORV's in general [2] Years of on the ground knowledge of the Preserve including ground conditions, season changes [high and low water], existing ORV trails etc. [3] A solid understanding of the Traditional Cultural past including the Intent of the Preserve creation. [4] Represent themselves only, not a specific group or groups.

The question is not whether ORV's and Hunting is allowed, both activities are clearly allowed. With that in mind you do not need people on the committee who could have a bias against ORV's or Hunting as in representing groups who clearly have a tract record of not being in general accord with Hunting and ORV use.

Considering the fact that the intent of the Preserve legislation was to allow reasonable ORV access the fair and reasonable process from day one would have been to identify all existing ORV trails. Map these trails, then charge the ORV Committee as qualified in 1 thru 4 above to eliminate only those trails that are unsustainable after clearly identifying unsustainable. Following this fair and reasonable process an ORV system could have been established in 12 months or less saving countless tax dollars to say nothing of the time and effort saved by the Committee and the Public not having to run back and forth to meetings for several years. A little common sense could have gone a long way.

Most Sincerely
Lyle McCandless
Native Floridian
Pres. BCSA
Member DMTAG